



SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR
Special Needs

PB&J Days: Doing the Math!

Every third Friday of the month, Academy students join with volunteers from the Order of Malta and others to prepare 300 peanut butter sandwiches for Merton House in Bridgeport. As we passed the 10th anniversary of our monthly PB&J service project, we did a little math:

30,000 sandwiches =
60,000 slices of bread
39,900 ounces of peanut butter
24,000 ounces of grape jam
1,200 volunteer hours

Wow! PB&J Days have evolved into a sustainable community service project that is meaningful for all involved. Everyone has a role; the assembly line experience is fast and efficient, and there's a wonderful sense of satisfaction sending off the sandwiches to feed hungry people in Fairfield County. Thank you, PB&J volunteers!



Awe and Amusement at the Peabody

A recent trip to the Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven inspired awe and amusement as the Adult Program toured a variety of exhibits, including the exhibition's highlight—a mummy at rest in a decorated tomb. Some visitors were interested in the prehistoric birds. Others enjoyed the ants marching from one colony to another in clear, room-length tubes. A giant live tarantula in the Insects exhibit caught everyone's attention, as did the dinosaur skeletons in The Great Hall.

Hands-on displays and touch pads with



audible descriptions made exhibits accessible and reinforced sensory perception and identification skills practiced at the Center.

Patrick N said that “T-Rex” was his favorite part of the museum. Morgan preferred the mummy in the Egyptian section. She also said she liked the ant tubes, and hanging out with Ms. Sonia and Jacki.

Our young adults benefit immensely from community-based experiences like this, and the bonding with peers that occurs during a longer outing. Trips generally cost from \$5 to \$15 per person. If you are interested in sponsoring one of our outings, please give us a call at 203-540-5381.



Special Needs Mass on December 2

All are welcome to the annual Mass Celebrating People with Special Needs, hosted by Saint Catherine Center on Sunday, December 2, at 2 p.m. at Holy Cross Church in Fairfield, adjacent to the Center.

Families of children with disabilities often hesitate to seek the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation for their children, feeling unsure about how their son or daughter may fit in the preparation classes. Many families do not know that accommodations and modifications can be made so their child can receive these sacraments.

Our Office of Parish & Community Support at Saint Catherine Center is here to help. Adapted materials to help the young person understand the process are also available through the Center. Individual or group practice session can also be arranged to help families feel more comfortable.

Packets of the necessary paperwork and more information are available by calling Saint Catherine Center at 203-540-5381. There are also numerous resources for families and catechists on our website.



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Saint Catherine Academy
Saint Catherine Adult Day Program

